


Tenneco Minerals
A Tenneco Company

P.O. Box 2650
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Wayne - route to file
M/053/005


July 17, 1991

Lowell, P. Braxton
Associate Director, Mining
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180

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**DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING**

Dear Mr. Braxton:

RE: Response to DOGM's July 8, 1991 Conditional Approval, Permit Revision, Heap Leach Expansion, Goldstrike Mine, M/053/005, Washington County, Utah

Tenneco has completed responses to the DOGM's July 8, 1991 conditional approval based on Tenneco's April 23 response to DOGM's review of the October 5, 1990 revised Notice of Intention. With this letter, we are submitting updated versions of the revised NOI to reflect your review comments.

R613-004-106 Operation Plan

Ditch 2 will be removed during the reclamation. Page 43 has been revised to reflect this change.

Tenneco and the DWQ, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, have reached an agreement on the construction of the foundation for the Leach Pad # 2 Extension. The material will be placed and compacted in 2-foot lifts. This construction is currently in progress. Tenneco will provide the DOGM with updated final design drawings and associated plans once they are accepted and approved by the DWQ.

R613-004-106(5) Topsoil Salvage

Page 51 A has been revised with a table breaking out the various topsoil depths and acreages. As indicated in this table, there should be an excess of approximately 10,000 cy of topsoil. If this does not turn out to be the case, Tenneco will consider salvaging additional fill material for use as topsoil substitute. This has been stated on page 51 A.

R613-004-009 Impact assessment

Tenneco has stated on Page 23 (not revised on 4/23/91) that all solution conveyance systems along the pad perimeters are either covered with plastic netting or split corrugated plastic pipe. This is done to minimize exposure of open solution to wildlife. Tenneco has

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stated on Page 26 (not revised on 4/23/91) that the entire area of the solution ponds is contained within an 8-foot high fence to prevent wildlife access. Tenneco has also stated on Page 26 that they maintain a monitoring program of wildlife mortality in the ponds and solution conveyance systems. On a monthly basis, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, and the Bureau of Land Management are notified of any wildlife mortalities and mitigative measures taken by Tenneco to prevent future occurrences. It is unclear what the DOGM is requesting in this comment beyond that which has been previously stated in the revised NOI.

R613-004-111(6)

Tenneco agrees with the DOGM that pushing the leached and neutralized material off the liners to achieve a 3:1 slope configuration would result in better reclamation, erosion stability, and ultimate productivity of the area. Tenneco will continue to pursue this option with the DWQ.

If you have any questions regarding our revised NOI feel free to contact me or Elliott Lips at JBR Consultants Group.

Sincerely,

Ken A. Kluksdahl by Elliott J.

Ken A. Kluksdahl
Mine Manager

cc: D. Brannum/Tenneco
E. Lips/JBR